

REMARKS

Claims 21-38 are pending. Claims 21, 26, and 34 are the only independent claims. Claims 21-26, 28, 29, 32, and 34-38 have been amended to more distinctly claim the subject matter therein. The specification has been amended herein to reflect Applicants claim for foreign priority under U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by this response.

DRAWING OBJECTIONS

In the Office Action the drawings were objected to because several items in FIGS. 1, 2, and 3 lacked reference numbers. Attached herewith are amended FIGS. 1, 2, and 3 including reference numbers for the elements therein. Accordingly, the specification has been amended to recite the reference numbers. Applicants respectfully request that the drawing objections be withdrawn.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 21-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent Publication No.: 2003/0046338, to Runkis (hereinafter as "Runkis"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, and request reconsideration and allowance of these claims in view of the following arguments.

Amended independent claim 21 is directed to a method for delivering content playback related information between devices on a single local network, and includes

"obtaining state information from at least two services," "invoking an action to a device to store the state information in the device, wherein the state information is included in the action as an input argument and the state information includes information related to rendering states in which content data is rendered," and "storing the state information in the device." Applicants respectfully submit that the cited reference fails to teach all of the limitations of claim 21.

Runkis discloses a system and method which employs a globally distributed computer network populated by a plurality of programmable autonomous network objects (PANOs) to facilitate the storage and delivery of digital information, and services. Runkis fails to teach "invoking an action to a device to store the state information in the device, wherein the state information is included in the action as an input argument and the state information includes information related to rendering states in which content data is rendered." In review of the Runkis reference, paragraph [0078] implies that a play position of the content is stored to be used later. However, Runkis fails to teach that the rendering state, i.e. volume, brightness, etc., in which the content is presented is stored according to the action.

In a second distinction, Runkis fails to teach "obtaining state information from at least two services," as recited in claim 21.

Runkis discloses that information is delivered from a PANO to another PANO or a central controller, and the Examiner implies that a PANO is analogous to a service. Thus, if information is delivered from a PANO to another PANO or a central controller as presented by Runkis, the Examiner's implication would mean that Runkis teaches that the user environment preference codes disclosed in Runkis are obtained at a certain

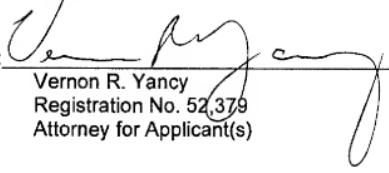
time from a single network element, or a PANO. Therefore, Runkis fails to teach or suggest the "obtaining state information from at least two services," as recited in amended independent claim 21. Thus, independent claim 21 is allowable over Runkis.

Independent claims 26 and 34 have been amended to include similar limitations as independent claim 21, with regard to "the state information includes information related to rendering states in which content data is rendered" and "obtaining state information from at least two services." As previously stated, Runkis fails to teach or suggest all of the limitations of independent claim 21, therefore independent claims 26 and 34 are also allowable over Runkis. Accordingly, dependent claims 22-25, 27-33, and 35-38 are believed to be allowable at least by virtue of their dependence from independent claims 21, 26, and 34.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application and the claims are in condition for reconsideration on the merits, thus reexamination of the application is requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (213) 623-2221 should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,
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